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Luis Marden

KING COFFEE'S QUEEN IS CROWNED IN EL SALVADOR'S CAPITAL

Surrounded by her court of former queens and defeated candidates for the title, she receives her crown of white flowers, dark green leaves, and ripe-red berries of the coffee plant. These daughters of El Salvador planters sit on bales of henequen (some show at extreme right), domestic fiber from which the small Central American republic makes bags for shipping its fine coffee. The girls' costumes are based on Indian styles borrowed from neighboring Guatemala. Only two small areas of pure Indians remain in El Salvador. The bulk of the population is principally of Spanish descent. The coffee queen's coronation is the headline event of the Coffee Ball, held annually at the Casino Juvenil in San Salvador, the country's capital. This emphasis on coffee reflects El Salvador's dependence on the crop (Bulletin No. 2).

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Originally entered as second-class matter January 27, 1922; re-entered as of April 27, 1943, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879. **Copyright, 1946, by National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.**

The Long Thread of the Yangtze Helps Hold China Together

PASSENGERS who recently boarded a Chinese river boat at Chungking celebrated the end of the long war against Japan by making the first postwar voyage down the Yangtze River to Shanghai, 1,525 miles away. During the war Japan controlled the great river about three-quarters of the way to Chungking, China's interim capital. On its last lap the boat passed Nanking, prewar capital.

At Nanking, more than eight years ago, on December 12, 1937, the U. S. gunboat *Panay* was bombed and sunk while attempting to aid foreigners caught in the Japanese-besieged city. For this "mistake," the Nipponese apologized and paid the United States government two million dollars. But the Japanese pushed on and established strong military installations at every important city along the Yangtze from Shanghai to Ichang in central China.

Hankow Has a City of Boats on the River

Foremost of China's great rivers, the Yangtze is the thread that normally holds the central part of the country together. It has the sixth-largest river basin in the world, covering approximately 500,000 square miles (less than half the drainage area of the Mississippi system). More than 3,000 miles long, the great river has its source in high plateau land of Tibet. Its wild upper reaches (illustration, next page) are still largely unknown to Western explorers. Near Shanghai, where it empties into the East China Sea, the Yangtze is between 30 and 40 miles wide.

Prewar travelers, journeying from Shanghai upstream, came first to Nanking, and then went on to commercially important Hankow. There, every type of boat rocked at anchor—"fishtail" boats, small steamers, fishing boats, sampans, and junks. Thousands of people spend their entire lives on the river, seldom leaving their houseboats or junks.

Travelers are now able to journey through the once-dreaded Yangtze gorges to Chungking on specially built flat-bottomed steamers. Before their invention, it was necessary to change from ocean-going steamers to smaller river steamers at Hankow. These went 500 miles farther inland, past the lake country and rich agricultural districts to Ichang where steam navigation ceased and the gorges begin. Yangtze waters, as they pour out of the Szechwan plain into China's rice bowl, make a noisy torrent and cut through steep, rugged canyons.

Approaching the swirling rapids, junks were towed by hundreds of men on the shore end of bamboo hawsers which were sometimes a half-mile long. Canals and locks were constructed to facilitate getting over the rougher parts, but methods were so primitive that boat owners ran the risk of seeing their property fall into whirlpools and smash against the rocks.

River Rises 90 Feet at Chungking During Monsoon

Many perils faced travelers intrepid enough to go through and beyond the gorges where the speed of the current is often 18 knots and wind blows 60 miles an hour. Junks ran the risk of catching on shoals or having their bottoms torn out by jagged rocks. If the tow-rope broke, tow-men often toppled into the river and the boat went rushing away to splintery doom.

Upstream from the gorges is Chungking. Here, during the monsoon season, the river rises as much as 90 feet. Flood waters annually carry more than six billion cubic feet of silt down the Yangtze to the sea.

During the navigation season, coolies migrate to the banks of the Yangtze

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Three Lions

THE RHINE-BANK TOWN OF KAUB, WITH ITS HILL CASTLE AND ISLAND FORT, WAS WELL PROTECTED IN MEDIEVAL TIMES

The Pfalz, like a stationary warship in the river, exacted toll from all passing ships. Its robber-baron owners sank ships and sometimes killed merchants who tried to avoid paying "protection money." Exceptionally rich traders were held for ransom in the Pfalz's below-water-level dungeons. Gutenfels Castle, a restored hilltop home-fort older than the island stronghold, looks down on a characteristic slope of Rhineland vineyard terraces (Bulletin No. 3).

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King Coffee Still Reigns as El Salvador Revises Constitution

EL SALVADOR, second-smallest republic in the Western Hemisphere, recently drew international attention by amending its constitution to limit presidential office to one term of four years. It is little more than half as large as West Virginia, but has about the same population.

Smallest and most densely populated of the six Central American republics, El Salvador supports 1,830,000 people on its 13,176 mountainous square miles. It lies on the Pacific side of Central America, 350 miles northwest of the Isthmus of Panama. It is the only nation on the mainland of North America that does not front on both the Atlantic and Pacific. Haiti is the only American republic that ranks below El Salvador in size.

The United States Drinks Half the Coffee Crop

El Salvador is an agricultural country with half its cultivated land devoted to the subsistence crop—corn. Only a fourth of the acreage produces coffee, but that is the country's big money crop. Coffee has accounted for as much as nine-tenths of the export trade. Next to Brazil and Colombia, little El Salvador is the largest exporter of coffee in the Western Hemisphere.

Before the war exports of Salvadoran coffee had reached nearly a million bags a year. United States consumption had gradually increased from a tenth to more than half the crop; and during the war coffee imports expanded further. For two months of the year a large part of El Salvador's population is required to pick the cherrylike fruit.

Much of El Salvador's coffee is grown on small plantations. The mountainous country, rising to peaks of 8,000 feet, affords varied elevations and climates for a wide range of products. Coffee is raised mostly on upland hills and around El Salvador's dozen or more volcanoes, some of which are active. Decomposed lava and volcanic ash have greatly enriched the soil.

One comparatively new and thriving industry is the conversion of domestic henequen into coffee sacks to replace those imported from India. El Salvador also has cotton mills. Carpets, shoes, clothing, and furniture are produced for home consumption.

Salvadoran Coffee Shippers Use Guatemalan Port

Most of the coffee planters maintain homes in the modern capital, San Salvador, where they enjoy the clubs and cafes, opera and theater, band concerts, motion pictures, and sports facilities. Lake Ilopango, a favorite society resort, is only ten miles distant over an automobile highway. San Salvador's elevation of more than 2,000 feet assures its residents of a moderate and equable climate.

On the Pacific coast, El Salvador has ports at Cutuco, La Libertad, and Acajutla. As the country has no eastern coast, coffee can be shipped to New Orleans, New York, and European ports through an arrangement made with Guatemala for the use of Puerto Barrios on the Caribbean Sea.

When coffee was first grown in El Salvador is not known. According to one story, a Brazilian teacher named Antonio J. Coelho came to El Salvador in 1840 and bought a small farm in the environs of San Salvador. He planted coffee and taught his students how to cultivate it. From there the growing of coffee spread to other regions.

As Salvadorans practice it, coffee culture is not a haphazard harvesting of

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where they erect poorly constructed bamboo huts and earn their daily rice by towing boats. In the central part of the Yangtze basin there are coal and iron-ore deposits. Occasionally, women and children can be seen going into the hillsides and bringing out baskets of coal on their backs.

In contrast to the meager enterprise and undeveloped country along the Yangtze is the plan for a dam to cost about 935 million dollars. This tremendous project would harness the Yangtze at Ichang, creating a reservoir 250 miles long which would cover the rapids of the gorge. In connection with the dam, the world's largest hydroelectric plant is planned. Electricity would replace oil for the lamps of central China's population which, within a 300-mile radius of the dam site, is comparable to that of the entire United States.

If such a dam is eventually built, the Yangtze, by means of a comprehensive lock system, may become navigable for ocean-going ships as far as Chungking. It is estimated that irrigation water would be available for ten million acres of land. An even newer plan for a renascent China is to establish somewhere in the Yangtze valley a large iron-and-steel industry. American technicians and capital are counted on in all these projects.

Note: The course of the Yangtze may be traced on the National Geographic Society's Map of China. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

See also "Today on the China Coast," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for February, 1945*; and "Changing Shanghai," October, 1937*. *(Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00)*

Bulletin No. 1, February 11, 1946

Joseph F. Rock

HERE THE YANGTZE HAS DUG A FURROW TWO AND ONE-HALF MILES DEEP

More stupendous than the better-known Ichang gorges is this section of China's great river near Likiang, in northern Yunnan Province. Navigation is impossible, and the area supports scant population. A few miles above here the river is wide and placid.

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Problem Areas of Europe: 6. The Rhineland

(This is the sixth of a series of nine articles on European trouble spots.)

ALONG the banks of the historic Rhine is a land smiled on by nature and disputed by man since before the days of Caesar.

During the troubled period between the two great wars of modern times, the Rhineland was among the more serious of Europe's dynamite-laden problems. When Hitler's troops marched into the Rhineland in 1936, in defiance of the Versailles Treaty, their tramping feet raised the first dust of the new militarism that was to engulf Europe and arouse the world.

War Ruins Now Scar "One of World's Most Beautiful Spots"

The part of the German Rhineland which lies west of the river covers an area of some 10,000 square miles. It is a little larger than New Hampshire, whose roughly triangular form it somewhat resembles. In its southwest corner, along the French frontier, lies the rich coal-mining and industrial Saar District. Rimming it on the south and west are France, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Excluding the chimney-forested, coal-pitted area of the Saar, the Rhineland was considered in normal times one of the world's most beautiful spots. Its flowering orchards, green vineyards, ancient castles, great forests, and ornate architecture (illustration, inside cover) have long been described in the most romantic and sentimental terms.

During the First World War, the Rhineland, like the rest of Germany, escaped the devastation that left its mark on the face of other nations. Some of World War II's most bitter battles and extensive bombings occurred there. Yet, tornadolike, modern war played queer tricks on the countryside, leaving some towns virtually unscathed, while bringing others to the ground.

Reduced to ruins are the three big cities of Cologne (Köln), Koblenz, and Mainz, along the west bank of the Rhine. After World War I they were, respectively, administrative headquarters for British, American, and French armies of occupation. In the present Allied occupation of Germany, the British control the northern half of the Rhineland area, with Cologne again in their hands. The French hold the southern portion, including both Koblenz and Mainz, as well as the Saar.

U. S. Troops Crossed the Rhine First at Remagen

From the flat and open country of the northern tip of the triangle, dipping deeply into Netherlands territory, the Rhineland rises toward the south into a hilly region where summits reach above 2,000 feet. Hill ranges in the central and southern section stretch diagonally like fingers pointing the way for traffic to and from the Rhine. Followed by big and little rivers, railroads, and highways, their valleys became the bloody thoroughfares along which American troops fought toward conquest of their main river barrier, the Rhine.

Such Rhineland streams as the Mosel, the Roer, and the Saar have taken their places in the history of the Second World War. The Ahr flows into the Rhine at Remagen where Yank forces first crossed the Rhine by way of a bridge which the Germans had failed to destroy.

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nature's bounty. Great care and research continually improve the strains and increase yields. Requirements for the best coffee are an acid soil, shade furnished by larger trees, altitude ranging from 2,500 to 4,000 feet, ample rain, and protection from wind. For every inhabitant, El Salvador has 65 coffee trees.

Note: El Salvador is shown on the Society's Map of Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies.

For additional information, see "Coffee Is King in El Salvador," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1944; and "Volcano-Girded Salvador," February, 1922.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, May 3, 1943, "Compact El Salvador, Where People and Crops Are Concentrated."

Bulletin No. 2, Februray 11, 1946

Luis Marden

IZALCO, THE VOLCANO, HUFFS AND PUFFS, BUT IZALCO, THE TOWN, GOES UNCONCERNEDLY ABOUT ITS BUSINESS

Called "the Lighthouse of the Pacific," this El Salvador crater erupts so regularly that a ship sailing along the coast can reckon its position from the plume of smoke by day and the "pillar of fire by night." Most eruptions are harmless blow-offs of gas, dust, and small fragments, but lava pours almost continuously from a small side vent.

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Porcelain-Making, Revived in Germany, Is Ancient Chinese Art

MANUFACTURE of "Dresden china" at the famed Meissen works 16 miles northwest of the city of Dresden, Germany, has been resumed. Meissen ware, in fact the entire porcelain industry of the Western world, grew out of the desire to emulate the superb product of Chinese artisans. Porcelain-making was born centuries ago in China.

As early as the third century of the Christian era Chinese potters were making the distinctive product that much later became known to the world as "china," or porcelain. This ware is distinguished by its quality of transmitting light, its flawless whiteness, its hardness, and the characteristic sound it emits when struck. It is the ultimate refinement of the potter's art.

Italians Among First Copyists of Chinaware

China's potters had found a remarkably pure white clay which they called kao-ling, from the high hill where it was discovered. They mixed this clay, now known as kaolin, with powdered quartz and feldspar, then added water to make the hard paste from which they shaped tiles, dishes, and ornamental objects. After baking, the objects were decorated, glazed, and fired again.

How or when this ware first made its way to Europe is not clear. One explanation is that specimens were transported by returning missionaries. Another version is that it entered through trade channels. Certainly it was known in Italy in the 15th century, and Italian potters then were trying to copy it. Because of its high translucence they were led into the error of thinking that it was a kind of glass. They experimented at Venice, at Florence, and at Pisa. They succeeded in creating earthenwares with a white enamel or slip covering, but they did not achieve true porcelain.

French potters working on the riddle of the ingredients of chinaware, in the early 17th century, were able at St. Cloud and Rouen to compound a soft paste from which they produced artificial porcelain. It contained a glassy ingredient to assure a high glaze, and this method of attempting to match the Chinese product was typical of French procedure for nearly a century. Similar compositions were developed in the 18th century in England and Spain.

The key to the secret was found by the Germans in 1709. They learned how to make a fine hard-paste porcelain from silicates of aluminum. Production began at Meissen in 1710, and the city soon became the porcelain capital of Europe and the seat of manufacture of so-called Dresden china. Clay comparable to the Chinese variety was discovered in Saxony; near Limoges, in France; and in Cornwall, England. These discoveries furthered the manufacture of true hard-paste porcelain.

Competitors Adapted Designs, Raided Personnel of Meissen

True porcelain was made at Sèvres, France, in 1769 in the royal factory which had been moved from Vincennes. This center, however, continued in the main to turn out artificial porcelain in tasteful and delicate designs until the beginning of the 19th century.

Meissen's fame subjected its factory to raids on its workers by competitors, and to widespread adaptation of its designs. Kings and princes vied with one another in fostering the production of beautifully modeled porcelain ware. Meis-

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Before the Allied invasion, the Rhineland was one of Germany's most fertile and productive regions. Vineyards grew thickly along the terraced hillsides. Highland, broad meadow, and sheltered valley produced grain crops, potatoes, sugar beets, fruit, tobacco, and garden vegetables. Forests supported wood carving and other time-tested local trades. Coal deposits provided power and material for the many big and middle-sized industrial centers that lined the banks of the Rhine, and clustered here and there to the west.

Rhine River a Busy Trade Artery

Transportation in this part of Europe is well developed. A close-meshed network of railroads and highways covers the Rhineland. A trunk line parallels the great river, and is fed normally by lines reaching it from all directions.

The Rhine itself is one of Europe's chief trade arteries, carrying vast quantities of coal, iron, timber, grain, and manufactured goods. Commercially valuable in peace, this historic highway became during the war a vital German route over which coal, iron and steel, and food products traveled.

THE RHINE GIVES THE RHINELAND NAME AND BOUNDARY

West and south, four countries adjoin Germany's rich sliver of land. At the tiny Roer River, Allied armies were held in check before breaking loose to cross the Rhine.

Geography and politics have made the Rhineland a buffer territory. Its northern and central sections offer an accessible gateway into France by way of the Belgian lowlands and Luxembourg. Along this route the German armies struck in the opening drives of both the First and Second World Wars. Again, late in 1944, after the Allied invasion of Germany, this region was used by the Nazis to launch the counterattack which become known as "The Battle of the Bulge."

France, with most to fear from this easy avenue of aggression, has proposed that the Rhineland be internationalized and separated from the rest of Germany.

Note: The Rhine River may be located on the Society's Map of Germany and Its Approaches.

For further information, see "War's Wake in the Rhineland," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1945; and "Cologne, Key City of the Rhineland," June, 1936*.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, October 8, 1945, "Kiel Canal and Rhine River Long Served International Trade;" and "Germany's Rhineland of Prime Military Value," October 2, 1944.

Bulletin No. 3,
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Geo-Graphic Brevities

HISTORIC FORT NIAGARA ENDS MILITARY CAREER

FORT NIAGARA has been honorably discharged from the Army. Official action ends the military career of this Western New York military post which has borne its present name for 221 years, and whose history dates from a stockade built in 1669 by the French explorer La Salle.

The fort's turbulent history resulted from its site on the shore of Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Niagara River. During the clashes between the British and the French, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812, Fort Niagara held a key position in the strategy of conquest.

La Salle's stockade was the first recognition of the military value of the site. There a trading post grew up and by 1678 the improved military station was known as Fort Conti. It was destroyed not long after, and on the same site, in 1687, the Marquis Denonville, governor-general of Canada, built an equally short-lived fort to which he gave his name. In 1688 Fort Denonville's garrison was wiped out and the post abandoned. In 1725 the French began construction of another fort which they named after the river it guarded.

British forces under Sir William Johnson captured this fort in 1759. From it he ruled a British domain extending for hundreds of miles.

During the Revolution the fort was a refuge for British loyalists and a base for British troops and their Indian allies combating American frontier resistance. It acquired an unsavory name as a market for scalps. By the terms of the Treaty of Paris, the British abandoned the fort in 1796, and it became a United States Army post. The British recaptured it in the War of 1812 and held it until the Treaty of Ghent restored it to the United States in 1815.

Historical interest centers in the massive stone castle and blockhouses, the bakeshop, and the gatehouse with its drawbridge. Parts of the star-shaped ramparts that surround the ancient stone buildings date from the early days, but the brick and earth sections were built in the mid-19th century when the modern post was laid out on land adjoining the old fort to the south.

Restoration of the old stone buildings was completed in 1934. The original plans, found in the Archives in Paris, were followed. The castle, designed as a manor house to conceal from the Indians its defensive purpose, has walls four feet thick to absorb shock of cannon fire. The oak doors at the main entrance weigh 1,500 pounds. So well balanced are they that a child can swing them. Since the restoration the flags of the three nations that have held the fort—France, Great Britain, and the United States—have flown over the parade ground.

Evidence of the friendship between the United States and Canada is the monument commemorating the Rush-Bagot Treaty of 1817 which defined the boundary between the two nations and provided that it remain forever unfortified.

Fort Niagara lies some 11 miles north of Niagara Falls, 36 miles northwest of Buffalo. Across the river, in the Canadian village of Niagara-on-the-Lake, stands Fort Mississauga, scarred with shot fired from Fort Niagara in 1812.

CANADA'S CASTLE MOUNTAIN RENAMED MOUNT EISENHOWER

RENAMING of Canada's 9,000-foot Castle Mountain in honor of General Eisenhower lengthens the list of peaks which have recently become natural monu-

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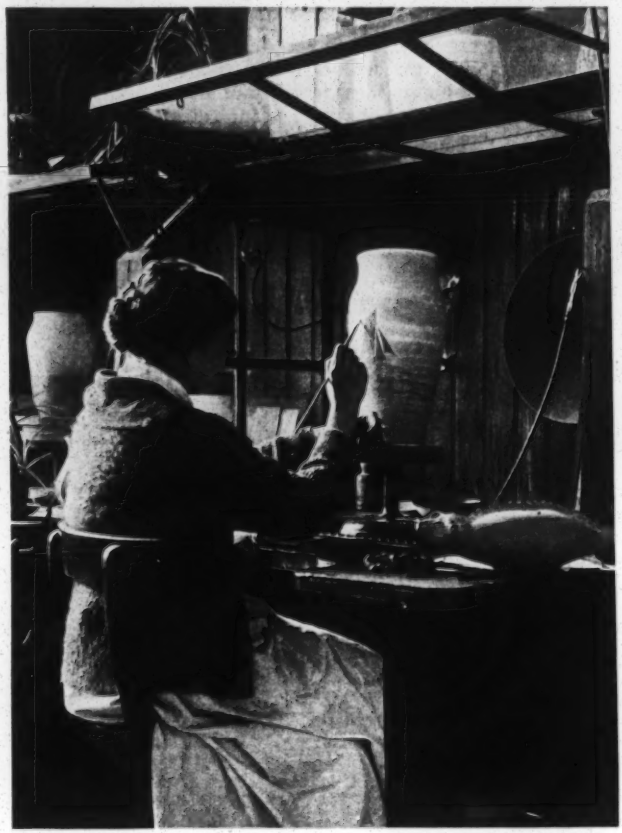
sen experts provided the "know how" for new factories in Berlin and Vienna.

By the late 18th century the manufacture of porcelain, true and artificial, was fairly well distributed over Europe. At Zürich the Swiss were producing porcelain in the French manner. The Italian works at Capo di Monte near Naples were recognized for their wares decorated with figures in relief. Spanish potters in Madrid were specializing in pieces with figure modeling. Denmark had factories in Copenhagen turning out hard-paste and soft-paste goods (illustration, below). Stockholm was Sweden's center. Russian factories at St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) and near Moscow fashioned German-style porcelain.

Josiah Wedgwood Gave Name to Distinctive Ware

The first-known English porcelain was made at Chelsea in 1745. The designs were inspired by Meissen ware. There were also factories at Derby, Liverpool, and Bristol, and in Staffordshire. Individuals as well as places gave their names to such English products as Spode and Wedgwood, named for Josiah Spode and Josiah Wedgwood, originators of famous ware.



Donald McLeish

A DANISH PORCELAIN PAINTER DECORATES A VASE

The vessel has already had its first baking. After being painted, it will be fired again in the glazing furnace. The smock-attired worker not only must have artistic skill, but also must know how colors change in tone in the intense heat of the ovens. Porcelain painters in the Royal Porcelain Works in Copenhagen are descended from generations of chinaware artists. Homey scenes, animals, and views from nature characterize Danish porcelain.

Arnold Bennett immortalized the pottery centers of his native Staffordshire in his novels of "the five towns."

The first manufacture of true porcelain in the United States is reported by one authority to have been at Philadelphia in 1825. China for table use was made in 1862 at Trenton, New Jersey.

The Western world paid the Chinese potter the frank compliment of imitation. Along with the eventual mastery of his medium, it managed to work out an appealing artistry of its own, and made the names of its great production centers recognized trademarks.

Note: For additional information, see "The World's Ancient Porcelain Center" (Fowliang, or Kingtehchen) in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1920.

Bulletin No. 4, February 11, 1946

ments to distinguished war leaders. Canada previously had named three 9,500-foot peaks after the Allied leaders, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin. Colorado changed the name of one of its two Mount Wilsons to Mount Franklin Roosevelt.

Mount Eisenhower lifts its bulky mass about halfway between Lake Louise and Banff, famous resort in Banff National Park, a 2,500-square-mile slice of southwestern Alberta. The castellated peak rises about two miles north of the Bow River. Its base extends eight miles along that stream. From its broad, rocky platform the mountain tapers into shapes that suggest the towers and battlements of an ancient castle. The sheer, bare sides rise 4,000 feet above the valley floor.

High peaks, eastern outposts of the continent's vast Rocky Mountain system, stud the region. Mountain climbing attracts visitors, and development of railway service and highways has made the area accessible. Swiss guides and pack trains make the ascents easier for novices. Mount Eisenhower was first climbed in 1884.

Numerous bungalow centers, motor campgrounds, ski lodges, and game and fire wardens' cabins lure vacationists to the region.

Note: The location of Mt. Eisenhower is indicated by the town of Castle Mt. (halfway between Banff and Lake Louise) on the National Geographic Society's Map of Canada.

Bulletin No. 5, February 11, 1946

Royal Canadian Air Force

RUGGED MT. EISENHOWER RISES VICTORIOUSLY ABOVE ALBERTA'S FOOTHILLS

Its shape suggested the former name—Castle Mountain. Canada recently renamed it for the U. S. general who led Allied armies to victory in Africa and Europe. The prominent peak (left) across the Bow River valley is Mt. Temple. The railroad leads to the Lake Louise resort area, on the boundary between the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. The entire region is included within Banff National Park.